

Sustainability Checklist

Instructions: What is needed to sustain a coalition? Working individually, take 15 minutes to mark the features that they think are in place in their own coalition. The facilitator will ask for volunteers to describe where they think their coalition is on the spectrum, based on the features they identified.

Organizational Structure

- ☐ Clearly defined roles and responsibilities
- ☐ Established working groups with defined tasks
- ☐ Strong board leadership and involvement
- ☐ Formalized operating procedures

Processes

- ☐ An open system that appeals to new members and a process for member turnover
- ☐ Community readiness is present: there is a demand for services and folks see that coordination for substance abuse prevention is needed
- ☐ A clear mission, clear purpose
- ☐ Team building activities to create cohesiveness among coalition members
- ☐ Clear decision-making style(s)
- ☐ Matching skill sets with coalition needs—"fit"
- ☐ Attendance at meetings of outside groups
- ☐ Funding that is tied to outcomes
- ☐ Ability to develop fund-raising capacity including "creative funding" strategies (matching funds)
- ☐ Provide food/childcare at meetings and events
- ☐ Public relations plan (i.e., constant publicity on programs/activities of the coalition and continuous presence through presentations and interactions in the community)
- ☐ On-going marketing and high visibility

Programming

- ☐ "Buy in" regarding prevention in the community
- ☐ Committed individuals involved in program planning and implementation
- ☐ Coordinator to oversee programs and activities
- ☐ Collect data, share with public, celebrate successes
- ☐ Successful implementation of outcomes- based programs that are shown to meet an actual need
- ☐ Variety of programs and strategies
- ☐ Collect data, share with public, celebrate successes
- ☐ Community interest in the programs and activities

Networking/Relationship Building

- ☐ Engage people at meetings – personal investment
- ☐ Ability to link programs and activities with existing organizations (i.e., programs that can be incorporated into the health curricula in schools)
- ☐ Ability to be political and make connections with key people

Other Issues

- ☐ Time
- ☐ Sense of Humor
- ☐ Persistence

